

ROY COOPER · Governor

KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary

SUSAN OSBORNE · Assistant Secretary for County Operations for Human Services

May 27, 2022

Dear County Directors of Social Services

- Attention: DSS Directors, Work First Managers and Supervisors, Food and Nutrition Services Managers and Supervisors, Energy Program Managers and Supervisors
- **Subject:** Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)
- **Priority:** Information Only

The Division of Social Services would like to make you aware of the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). The ACP is a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) program to help low-income households pay for internet service and connected devices.

Eligible households may receive:

- Up to \$30/month discount on internet service.
- Up to \$75/month discount if the household is on qualifying Tribal lands.
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, table, or desktop computer (with a copayment of more than \$10 but less than \$50)

The Division would like to encourage county staff to contact TANF cash assistance recipients to inform them about this benefit. Notify families about ACP so that they may apply directly. Eligible households can enroll in the ACP through an approved provider or by visiting one of two simple and easy-to-use websites: <u>ACPBenefit.org</u> or <u>GetInternet.gov</u>.

To help spread the word, the FCC has developed a <u>toolkit</u> with flyers, social media content, ACP application materials and more. More detailed facts about the overall program can be found on the ACP <u>fact sheet</u>.

Households with income at or below 200 percent of the poverty level are eligible for the subsidy. Some households are automatically eligible for the ACP, without the need to prove their income, if at least one member of the household is receiving benefits from certain federal programs, including Medicaid and Food and Nutrition Services (FNS).

Only one monthly service discount and one device discount is allowed per household. Not all participating internet service providers offer device discounts.

ACP benefits are not included when determining or redetermining eligibility for Work First.

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES • ECONOMIC AND FAMILY SERVICES

LOCATION: 820 S. Boylan Avenue, McBryde Building, Raleigh, NC 27603 MAILING ADDRESS: 2420 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2420 www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-527-6300 • FAX: 919-334-1265 To learn more about the ACP program, visit <u>www.fcc.gov/acp</u>. If you have any questions you can send an e-mail to <u>ACPino@fcc.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Carled West

Carla West, Senior Director Economic Security and Family Services Section

CW/rjs

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